(e) The Andaman and Nicobar Administration provided initially an amount of Rs.17,11,007 in cash and milk powder worth Rs.1627,200 to ANIIDCO towards revolving fund for running the milk plant excluding salary component to which, was being paid by the Administration animal Husbandry Department till 1991-92. From 1992-93 a grant of Rs. 5.00 lakh has been proposed every year for three years.

Pension Cases of Widows of freedom fighters

4695. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pension cases of widows of freedom fighters lying pending as on date;

(b) the reasons for delay in finalising these cases; and

(c) the steps taken for expeditious disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The number of pension cases of widows of freedom fighters pending at present is 698. When widows apply for transfer of pension, they are required to submit identification documents and pensioner's half of pension payment Order. Non-receipt of these documents sometimes cause delay. Also in certain cases, i.e. where name of the wife has not been indicated by the freedom fighter in his application, a report is required to be called from the District magistrate regarding the particulars of the widow. Where an application is complete in all respects orders are issued on a priority basis. In other cases, documents or report of the District Magistrate as the caso may be, is called forthwith.

Distribution of Fertilizers

4696. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large scale wastage in distribution of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the distribution of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPLLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Los of fertilizer during transportation, storage and distribution does occur. However, no large scale wastage has been noticed.

(c) Better packaging and more scientific storage methods are being adopted to reduce the loss in handling. The use of hooks on fertilizer bags is discouraged.

[*Translation*]

Production of HYV Seeds

4697. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the requirement of the High Yielding Varieties (HYV) seeds by 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision to implement a scheme to achieve this targeted production;.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the target fixed for the production of